ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A matrix of single input OR-gates correspond to respective codes to be assigned to strings. The inputs of the OR-gates are coupled to respective outputs of a code decoder that is responsive to a fetched input The locations of a character and level table, respectively accessible by the code decoder outputs, store the extension characters of extended strings recorded in the decompressor. Outputs of OR-gates are selectively coupled to code decoder outputs through a 10 matrix switch to sequentially couple OR-gate outputs to OR-gate inputs so that the characters of a string corresponding to the input code are provided from accessed locations of the table. An update extended string is recorded by coupling the output of the OR-gate 15 corresponding to the next assignable code to the code decoder output corresponding to the previously received The first character of the string corresponding to the current code is stored in the table location accessible by the next assignable code.

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